

Alaska Region Groundfish Management

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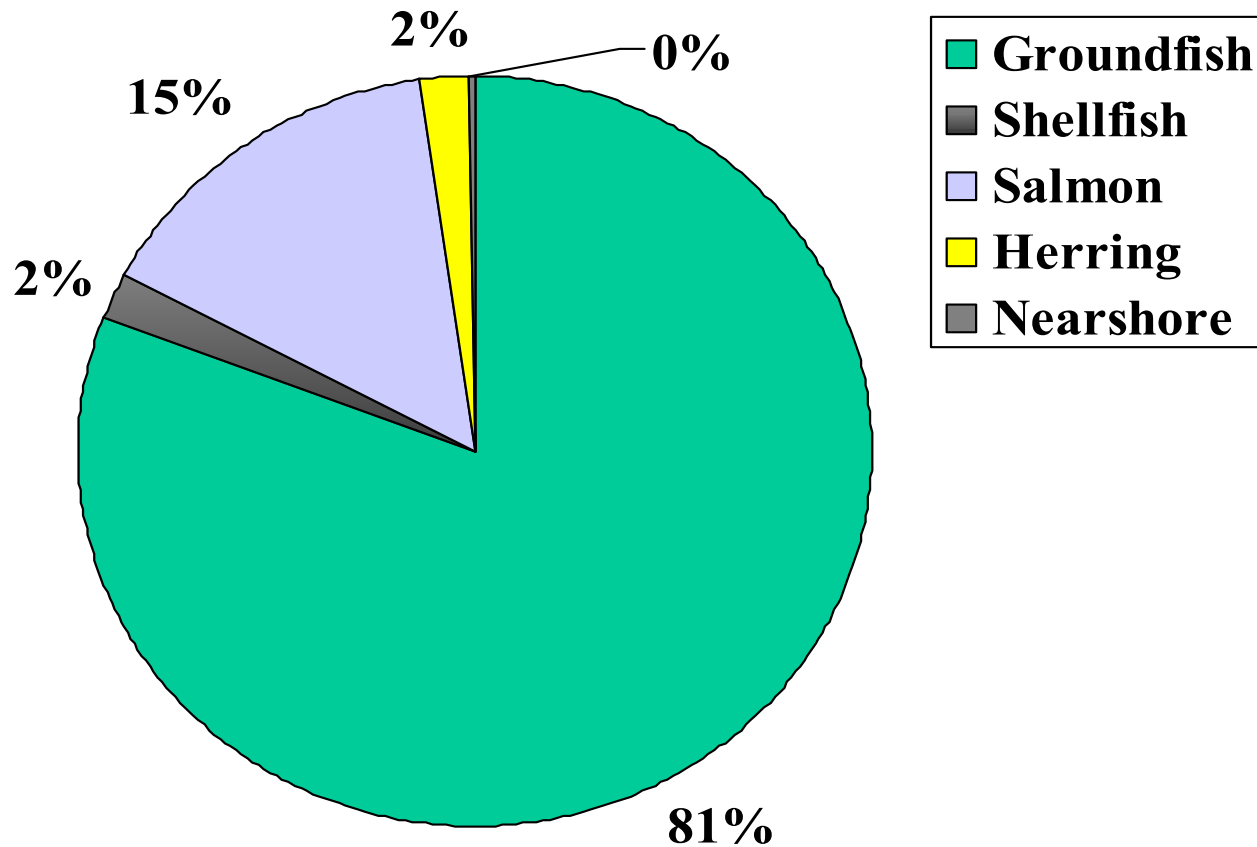
47,000 miles of coastline

36,000 square miles of fishable continental shelf

Fisheries Off Alaska

- Would rank in the top 10 producing countries
- Represent 50% of total U.S. catch
- Catch between 1 and 2.5 million metric tons of groundfish annually - for 28 years
- Are the number one private sector employer in Alaska
- Are second only to oil in revenue to the State

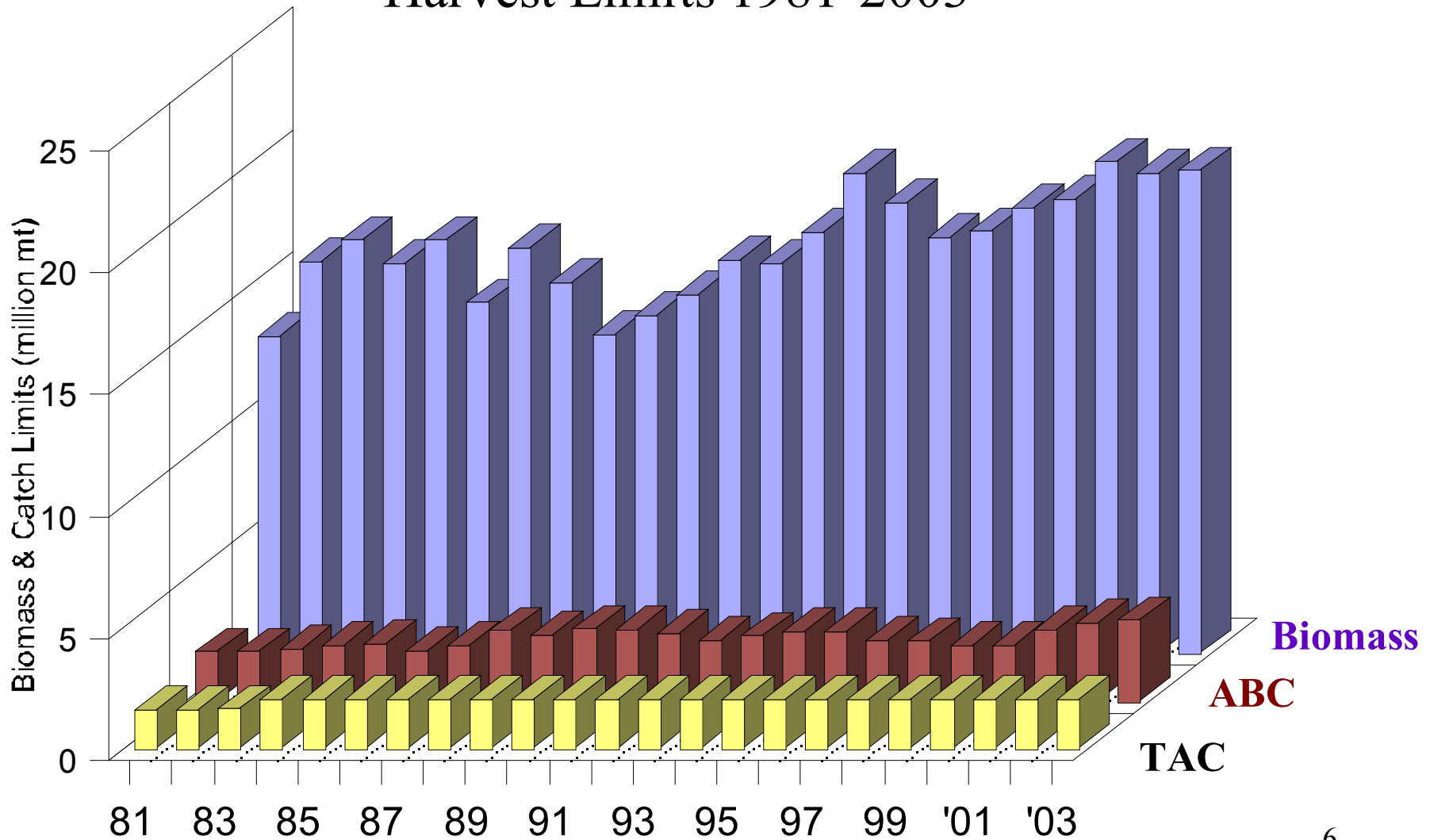
Alaska Landings 2.5 million mt



Strict science-based catch limits

- Rigorous review of stock assessments by Groundfish Plan Teams and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)
- Strict annual catch limits or Total Allowable Catch (TACs), at or below Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC)
- Overall OY limits for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (2 million mt) and Gulf of Alaska (800,000 mt)
- Independent scientific review of harvest strategies in 2002

Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Harvest Limits 1981-2003

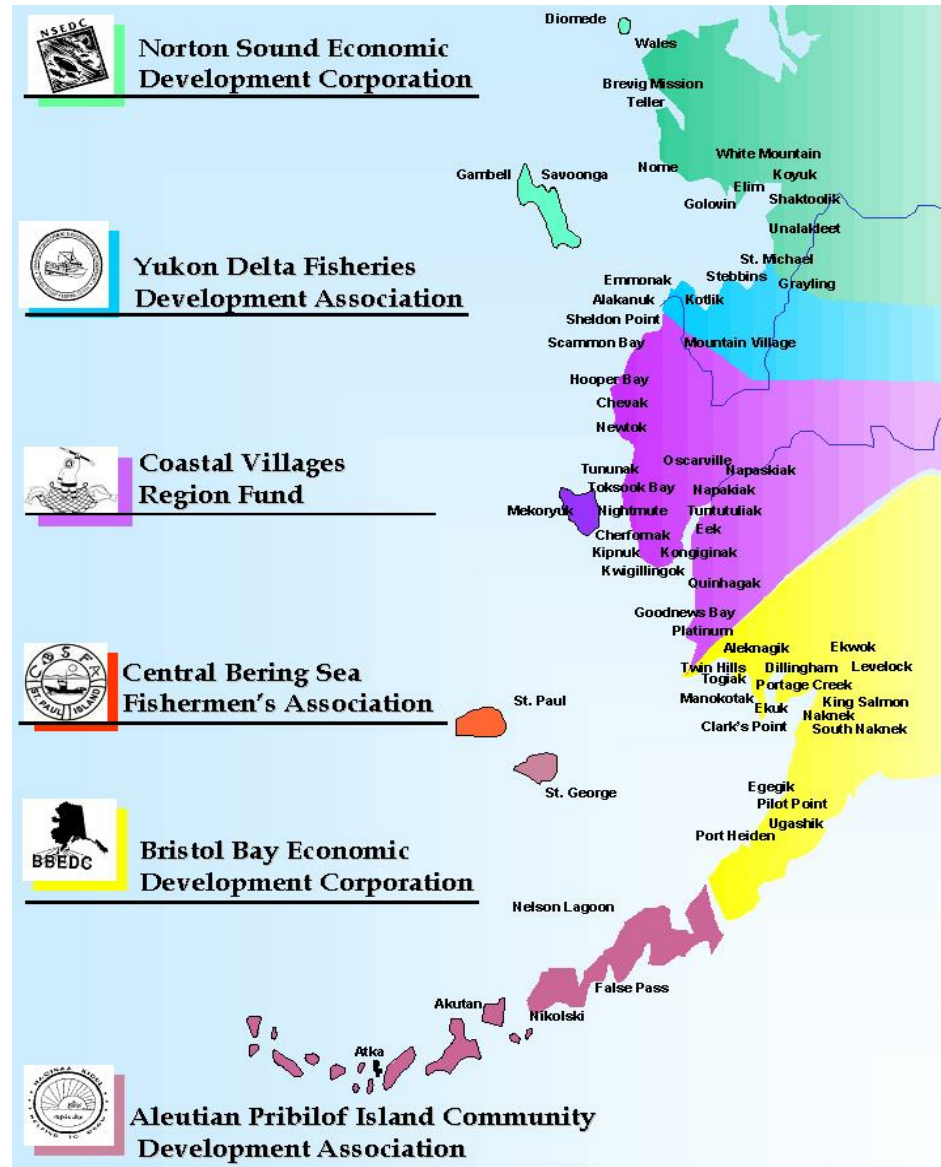


American Fisheries Act

- Bering Sea pollock fishery operates under fishery cooperative system - limits fishery to specific vessels and processors
- reduced capacity - catcher/processors from 29 to 16
- higher utilization rates
- increased observer coverage
- weight catch
- increased safety

Community Development Quota Program

- Benefits 65 remote coastal communities in Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands since 1992
- Sets aside 10% of pollock TAC, 7.5% of all other groundfish and crab TACs, and halibut set aside
- Since 1992, over \$95 million in wages, education, and training benefits provided to over 22,000 western AK residents
- 2002 total revenues of the six CDQ groups was about \$70 million combined



Individual Fishing Quotas

- halibut and sablefish fisheries since 1995
- designed so that eventually all catcher-vessel IFQ will be fished by the QS/IFQ holders
- 4,948 halibut and 1,726 sablefish permits
- 6,971 halibut and 2,030 sablefish vessel landings
- ATM and Web real time reporting
- Future - Community based IFQ and Charter boat harvest levels

2004 Groundfish and PSC Allocations

<u>Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands</u>	<u># of Allocations</u>
Groundfish TAC ¹	80
PSC ² Limits	42
American Fisheries Act (AFA) Groundfish Sideboards ³	71
AFA PSC Sideboards	31
Community Development Quota (CDQ) Groundfish	176
CDQ PSC Limits	42
<u>Gulf of Alaska</u>	
Groundfish TAC	74
PSC Limits	12
AFA Groundfish Sideboards	62
AFA PSC Sideboards	9
<u>Total</u>	<u>599</u>

¹TAC - total allowable catch

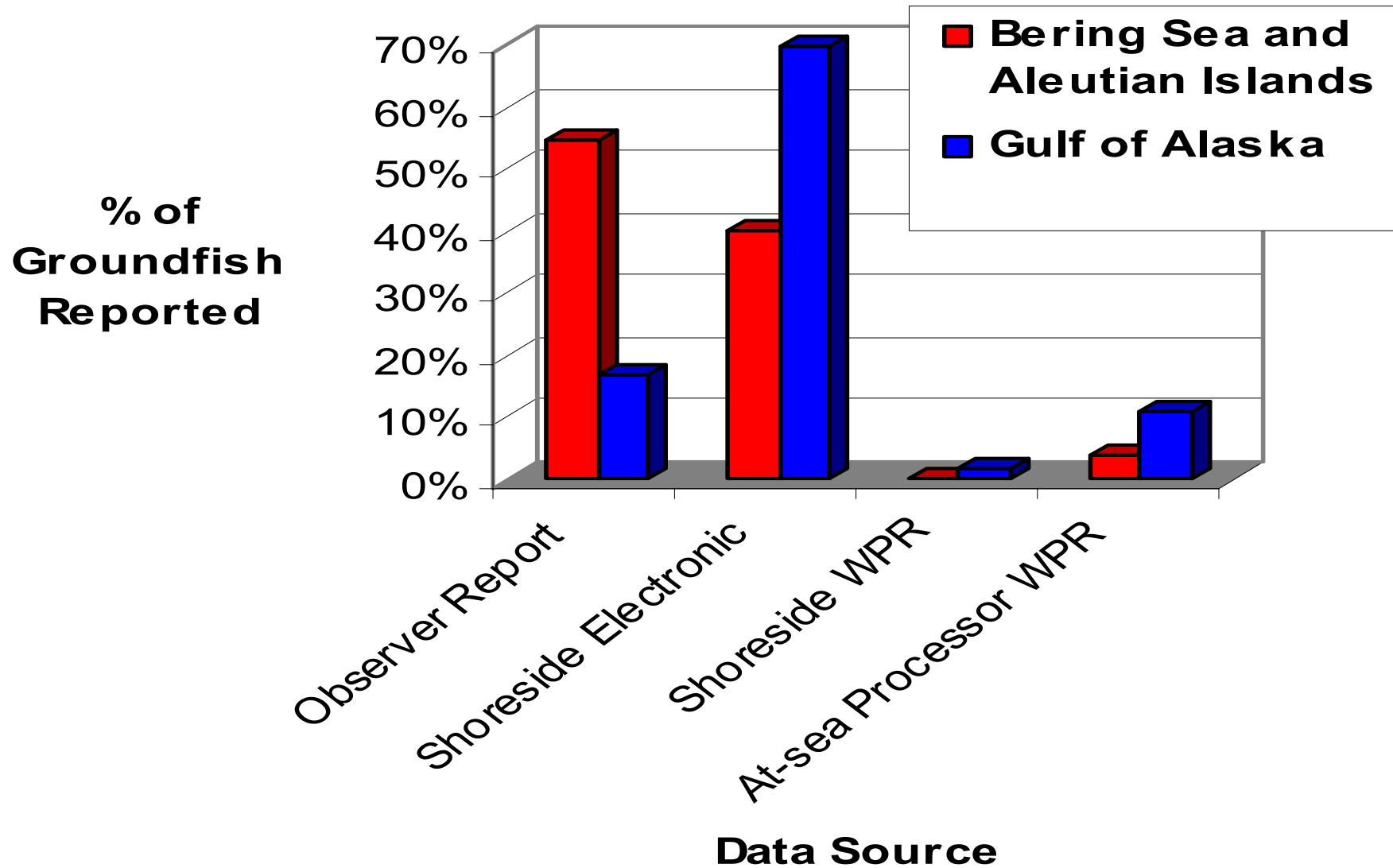
²PSC - Prohibited Species Catch

³Sideboard - Limitations under the American Fisheries Act (AFA) to protect participants in other groundfish fisheries from adverse effects resulting from the AFA and from fishery cooperatives in the directed pollock fishery.

2003 Alaska Groundfish Reports

Source	# of Processors	Catch
Observer - electronic	64	52%
Shoreside - electronic	41	42%
CP/Mothership - manual	25	5%
Shoreside - manual	25	.4%
CDQ - electronic	2	.1%
Total	161	

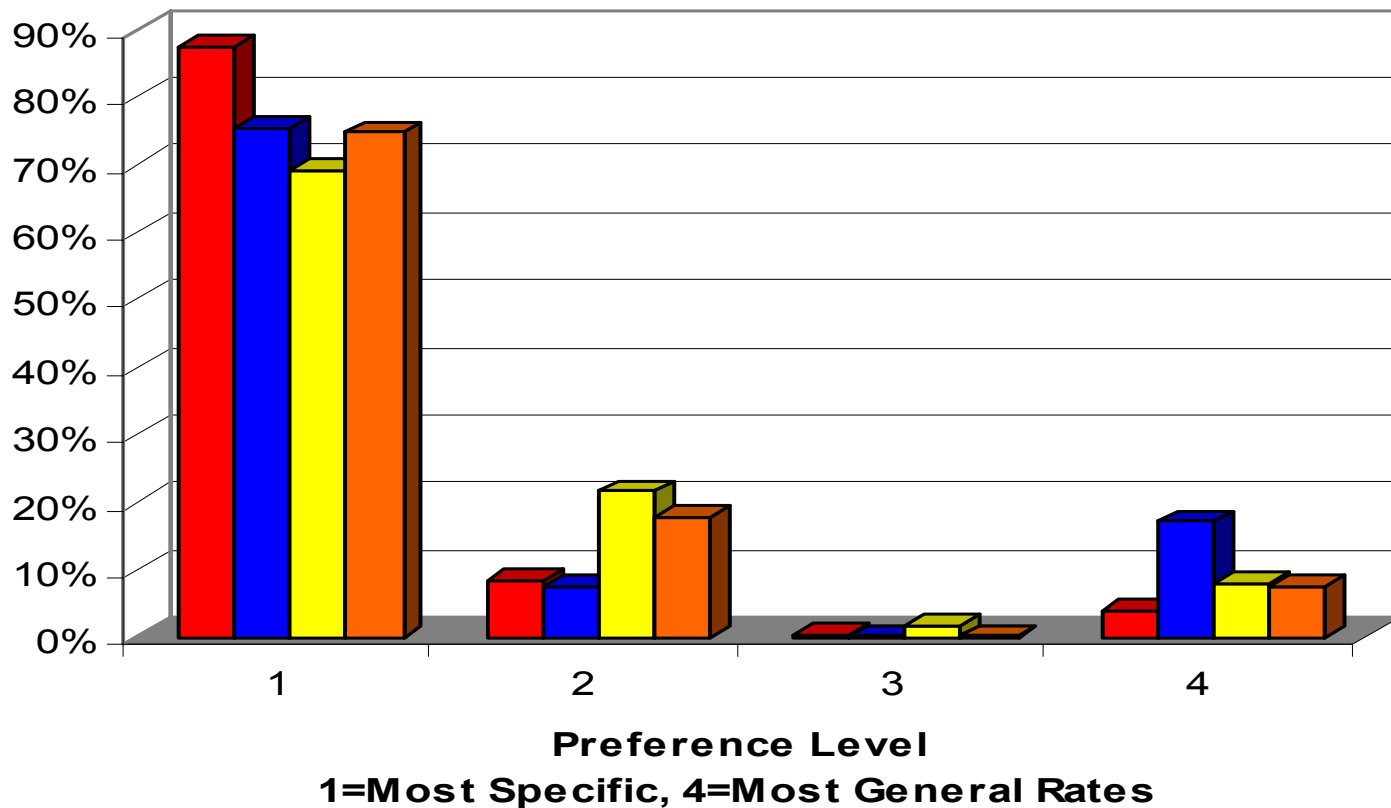
2003 Catch Accounting Data Sources for Groundfish



2003 Bering Sea Aleutian Islands PSC Rates

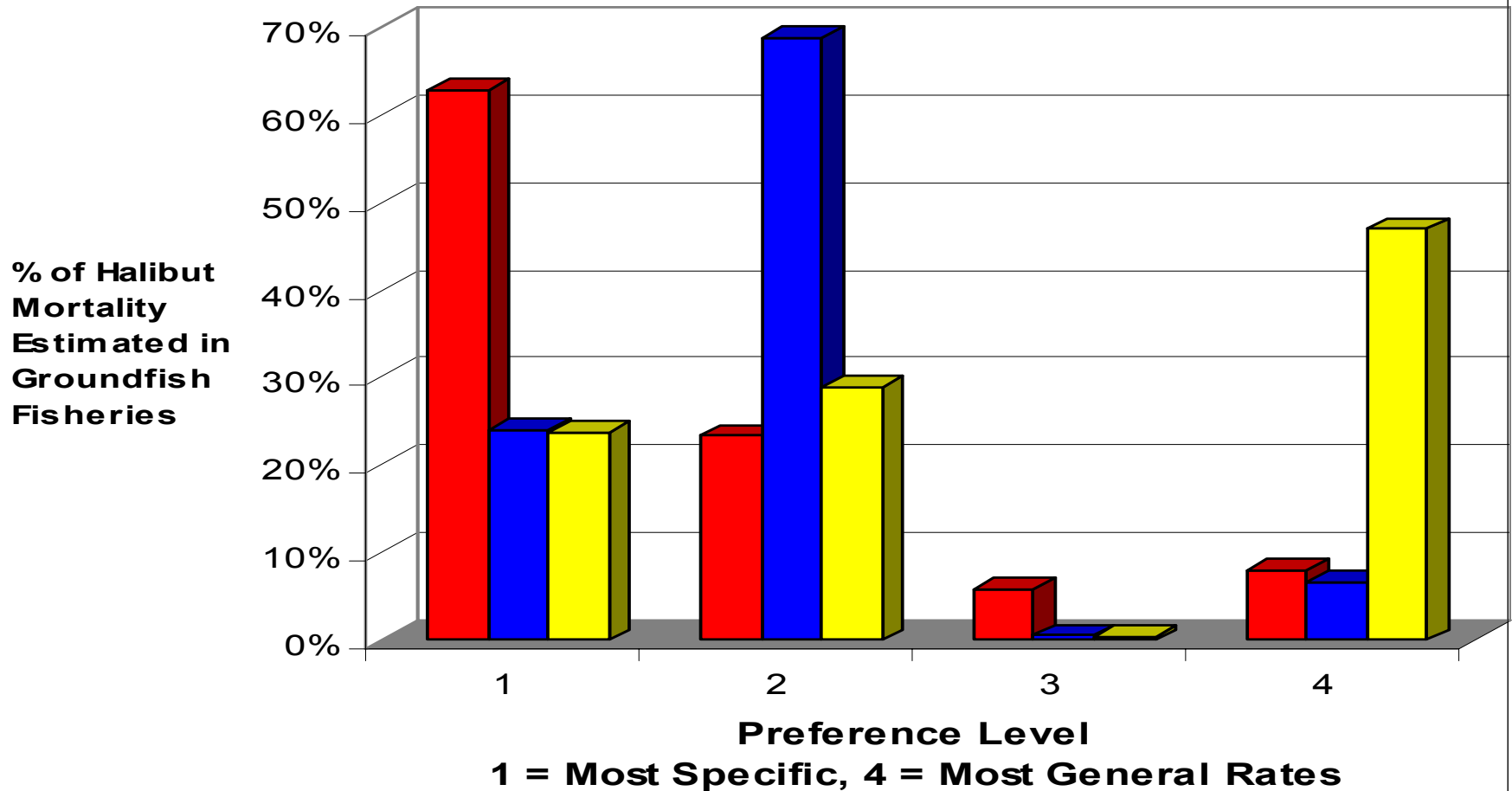
- Hook-and-line Pacific cod
- Hook-and-line Other
- Non Pelagic Trawl
- Pelagic Trawl

**% of Halibut
Mortality
Estimated in
Groundfish
Fisheries**



2003 Gulf of Alaska PSC Rates

■ Trawl Deep water complex ■ Trawl Shallow water complex
■ Hook-and-line



2003 Timing of Closure Announcements

